

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently amended):        A method for the treatment of atherosclerosis in a patient in need of such treatment which comprises administering an effective amount of a bisphosphonate to the patient wherein the bisphosphonate is zoledronic acid[,] or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or any hydrate thereof.

Claims 2-8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Previously presented):        A method according to claim 1 in which the bisphosphonate is administered locally.

Claims 10-17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (Cancelled)